



**David E. Pierce**  
*Acting Director*

# *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

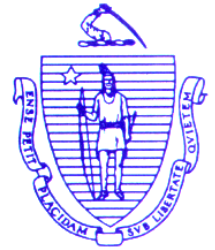
## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617)626-1520

fax (617)626-1509



**Charles D. Baker**  
*Governor*

**Karyn E. Polito**  
*Lieutenant Governor*

**Matthew A. Beaton**  
*Secretary*

**George N. Peterson, Jr.**  
*Commissioner*

**Mary-Lee King**  
*Deputy Commissioner*

August 27, 2015

### *Marine Fisheries Advisory*

## **2015 Trimester II Atlantic Sea Herring Closure for Management Area 1A**

The Atlantic sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A is projected to land its Trimester II (June – September) quota allocation on Friday, August 28, 2015. Accordingly, effective Friday, August 28, 2015 at 11:59PM this fishery is closed ([Closure Notice](#)). The closure will remain in effect until further notice. This action is consistent with 322 CMR 9.00 and actions taken by the Atlantic Sea Herring Section (comprised of the states of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts) on August 26, 2015.

The ASMFC's Sea Herring Section will meet again at 3:00 PM on Thursday, September 3, 2015 (by conference call) to review catch data and determine if there is sufficient Trimester II quota allocation to reopen the Management Area 1A sea herring fishery in September under a limited number of landing days. If this determination is made by the Section, it will be adopted pending approval of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission. If not, the fishery will remain closed until the Trimester III (October – December) Management Area 1A quota allocation can be lawfully harvested. The Section will meet in the interim to discuss implementing days-out for the Trimester III fishery.

During the closure period, it is lawful for any vessel to retain, possess and land up to 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring taken from Management Area 1A as incidental catch in another fishery. This limit applies per day or per trip, whichever period is longer. Vessels may also transit Management Area 1A in possession of more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring provided that the excess fish was lawfully caught outside Management Area 1A and all fishing gear is stowed. Dealers acting as primary buyers of Atlantic sea herring are prohibited from purchasing or receiving more than 2,000 pounds of sea herring harvested from Management Area 1A by any vessel during any trip or any calendar day.

Further information regarding the management of Atlantic sea herring can be found at: [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries); [www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov); [www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)